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JAMES GORDON BROWN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS TO-MORROW EVENING.

ADAMANT OF ENJOY, Irving Place—ITALIAN OPERA-HOUSE.

WINTER GARDEN, Broadway—THE GRAND OPERA.

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MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

An interesting correspondence has just taken place between Brigadier General Hays and Secretary Stanton in regard to the quota of New York City. It appears that the city only lacks three thousand men to make good her complement under all calls. It furthermore appears that the quota of the city is not yet ordered to be enforced.

We give in another column the full details of the catastrophe on board of the Chicago on Friday afternoon. Up to a late hour yesterday morning the vessel had been on fire, and there were but faint hopes of the recovery of some twelve more. Out of thirty-three persons on board, only three are now in the hospital in four cases. The incidents of the affair are so interesting, and so full of detail, that we have been unable to do more than to give a brief summary of the facts.

The European mail by the Asia, dated at the 24th inst., reached this city from Boston yesterday. The main points of the news were published in the Herald last Friday in our telegraphic report from Halifax. The London Times, an organ of the rebels in Europe, reports the efforts made by Karl Russell to communicate with Jeff Davis by a special envoy from Havana, and his failure.

Acting Master Charles Danenhower, of the United States Steamer Vanderbilt, is now on trial before a court-martial assembled in the Philadelphia Navy Yard, charged with the murder of James Gray, mate of the British bark Saxon, on the high seas, by shooting him on board that vessel, off the island of Angora Payson, on the coast of Africa, in the month of October last. The Saxon was seized as a prize by the Vanderbilt, the commander of the steamer alleging that the bark was employed as a tender to the rebel privateer Tusculum, and that she had a portion of her contraband cargo on board. Mr. Gray was shot soon after the capture. The subject has been frequently discussed in the English Parliament, and gave rise to an important official correspondence between Karl Russell, Lord Lyons and Mr. Seward.

The attendance at the Fair yesterday was quite large. Over thirty-two thousand dollars were paid into the treasury. Count Joazeff last evening repeated his lecture on "Napoleon and the French Empire" in the Cooper Institute. There was but a small attendance. On the proposition, that the Hon. William A. Lincoln, of the United States, be elected to the next President of the United States, an overwhelming vote was given in favor of "Little Mac."

The case of the Senator was again on yesterday in the United States Circuit Court, before Judge Hall. Counsel for the accused, Captain Cunningham, moved to have an early day fixed by the government for the final trial of the case, or a *nolo pro*, entered by the court. After argument, Monday week, April 25, was fixed for the trial.

There was a panic in the stock market yesterday, and nearly every share fell at the first board from two to ten per cent. Government securities, however, remained steady, but inactive. The gold market was quiet, the quotations ranging between 171 and 172½. Money was scarce, and there was less disposition than usual on the part of capitalists to accommodate.

The drop in gold and exchange rendered the market for merchandise very quiet on Saturday, and most commodities were dull. The business reported was but moderate in any, and small in most articles of commerce. Cotton was irregular. Groceries were pretty firm. Petroleum was irregular, and the business was light. On "Change" breadstuffs were all lower and very dull, the decline in flour being from 15c. a 40c. Pork was 2½c. off, and other hog products in proportion. Butter was also dropping, and beef firm. Whiskey was 2½c. lower. Freights depressed and inactive. The limited engagements to Liverpool were at rates which will not pay stevedore wages, let alone other incidental expenses. The export movement is extremely light, and the supply of tonnage largely in excess of the demand. Many vessels are clearing out in ballast for the other side, seeking.

The Rebel Operations in Kentucky. We incline to the opinion that the operations of Forrest and his forces in Kentucky are more important than they are generally supposed to be. A general who is likely to be hemmed in from all sides must, says the maxim, assume the offensive and strike somewhere to distract his enemy's attention, even if he do not divert his forces. And at present the Southern confederacy, menaced by Grant in Virginia and checked by steady Thomas in Georgia, and by our forces in East Tennessee, is in the position of the general likely to be hemmed in, and has apparently chosen to assume the offensive in Kentucky. Such a series of operations as that just begun at Fort Pillow, while it cannot alone affect the result of the war, may yet do very serious injury in the destruction that goes with it, and may also retard, to say the least, the operations of one of our armies.

It appears very probable that operations in Kentucky are part of the rebel plan for the coming season. Doubtless the rebel leaders have more than once regretted that they had not paid to Kentucky those peculiar attentions as a border State that they have lavished upon Maryland. Had they assumed the defensive on the Potomac, and sent their great advances into Kentucky rather than into Maryland and into Pennsylvania, they might have met with more sympathy from the people; and, as our concentration in their path would have been less easy, the result might have been different. It may be that they think it not yet too late to correct this error, and that they even think that the present time, when our greatest energies are apparently concentrated on the struggle in Virginia, is the best they could have chosen for such an advance.

If the rebel General Buford, now somewhere near Paducah, shall be joined in Kentucky by the forces under Forrest, Lee and Chalmers, lately at Fort Pillow, and on their way north, we should have a troublesome body to deal with. But if the energetic Morgan, now believed to be in Virginia, shall make his way into Kentucky with a still larger force, on that "bold expedition" of which the Raleigh Confederate speaks, the result may be a very desperate one. For, aside from the destruction of property that would ensue, we do not see what should prevent such a force, unaided in Kentucky, and supplied by plunder, from operating on the communications of our force at Chattanooga so as to compel its retreat, with Johnston at its heels. This, certainly, is rather what is possible than probable; but it all shows the necessity of immediate energetic action in Kentucky.

CONTRACTORS CRYING FOR MORE.—The country has been brought into such a condition by the blundering financial policy of the government that even the contractors are beginning to appeal to Congress for aid to enable them to fulfill their bargains. Among these are the naval engine contractors—a class that have been already open to criticism for alleged shortcomings in their dealings with the government. But now they appeal for aid, for what? To enable them to try more costly experiments, or to show how far the extravagance of the government can be led in order to line the pockets of the favorites of the Navy Department? We are in favor of assisting every honest contractor in carrying out a fair bargain; but the notorious recklessness and unscrupulousness of the government contract jobbers induce us to regard with suspicion any appeal to the liberality of Congress that has the taint of the Navy Department about it. But the blundering financial policy of the government may be at the root of these particular navy contract failures, and as such they may be entitled to consideration at the hands of Congress. Give the contractors justice.

The New Abolition Platform—Social and Political Equality for Negroes.

It will be seen from the advertisement which we publish below that "the tried men and women" of the abolition faction are to hold sweet council together at Dr. Cheever's church on Tuesday, the 10th of May. The objects of the meeting, now that slavery is dead, are "the reconstruction of society on the basis of political equality"—which means giving negroes the right to vote—and the abolition of "complexional distinction"—which means miscegenation. In order to secure a full attendance of the brethren and sisters, we conspicuously reprint the call gratis:

CHRISTIAN ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY. The thirtieth annual meeting of the American Anti-Slavery Society will be held in the Church of the Puritans (Rev. Dr. Cheever's), in the city of New York, on Tuesday, May 10, commencing at two o'clock A. M. The objects of the meeting are, to consider the progress of the cause since the last meeting, and to determine the policy of the Society for the coming year. The meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, May 11, at the Cooper Institute, commencing at half past seven o'clock. The names of the speakers will be announced hereafter.

The business meeting of the Society will be held in the lecture room of the Church of the Puritans, on Tuesday evening, at half past seven, and on Wednesday morning, at ten A. M.

It is to be known that the government stands irreversibly pledged to the liberation of more than three-fourths of the slave population of the United States, by the proclamation of emancipation of January 1, 1863. The remaining portion of the slave system in the border States is rapidly dissolving by the salt-storm and consequent freedom of such slaves within their limits as are capable of bearing arms in the service of the country, and by a growing conviction that it is useless to attempt any longer to maintain the slavery of the South, which is hourly becoming more and more a source of danger to the Union, and that the only way to secure peace and safety to the Union is to free the slaves, and to complete justice to the colored race, both at the hands of the government and with reference to the reconstruction of society on the basis of political equality.

WM. LLOYD GARRISON, President.

WM. LLOYD GARRISON, President. This will be the thirtieth anniversary of this organization, which has done about as much injury to the country as it would have done had it been composed of fiends and furies. This war, brought about by the Anti-Slavery Society, has pretty well squelched it, however. Slavery has been abolished practically by our arms, and will soon be abolished legally by an amendment to the constitution; and this knocks the foundations from under this association of pestilent agitators and crazy fanatics. There being no slavery, of course there can be no anti-slavery. Consequently the May meeting will no longer be devoted to freeing "the poor slave." Neither will it be devoted to congratulations and rejoicings over the poor slave's freedom; for this has been accomplished in a manner and with a suddenness that have astonished and provoked these charitable brethren and sisters, who begin to feel that they deserve but little of the credit of an emancipation occurring neither at the time nor in the way that they proposed.

For what, then, does this society of original and avowed disunionists intend to assemble? Why, as we see by the above call, to attempt to put miscegenation into practice upon a large scale, and to give the negro a vote for the next President. But these subjects of consideration will undoubtedly prove bones of contention among the brethren. William Lloyd Garrison, the President of the society, has not yet declared in favor of miscegenation; but Wendell Phillips has, and the result will be warm words and a sharp argument, unless Mr. Garrison conforms to the theories of Phillips and Tilton. The brethren and sisters may also agree to disagree about this delicate matter, and it is more than probable that they will. In that case, look out for white squalls and black squalls, and a stormy time all around. Then, again, Mr. Garrison and Mr. Phillips are also at variance upon the Presidential question. Mr. Garrison believes that President Lincoln ought to be re-elected, while Mr. Phillips denounces the President as a "tortoise," a "fool" and a "hypocrite." Mr. Phillips thinks that Fremont ought to be our next President, while Mr. Garrison denounces the Pathfinder as unfaithful to the abolition creed since his Missouri proclamation. This is a very pretty quarrel as it stands, and it will be prettier yet when the brethren and sisters take sides in it. Distinctly there is a pleasant prospect that the society will break up in a row, and leave considerable wool and a few broken benches on the floor of the church as tokens of its decease.

SIGNS OF THUNDER.—The roads are drying up around the Rapidan—the hostile armies are gradually gathering nearer the narrow dividing stream. General Grant has gone to "the front," the outposts and camp followers of our army have been cleared out, and most of the late absentee officers in Washington have rejoined their regiments. Remembering what followed the arrival of General Grant at Chattanooga last November, we may expect soon to hear the echoes of heavier thunder from the Rapidan than has ever yet shaken the hills of old Virginia; and we hope it will usher in the greatest Union victory of the war. The heroic Army of the Potomac, thoroughly reorganized, heavily reinforced, and under the directing eye of General Grant, is eager for the fray, and officers and men are anxious to show that the invincible veterans of the West have their peers in the veterans of the East. They are only waiting the word for the "Forward, march!"

ANOTHER HITCH ON THE NEGRO QUESTION.—On the bill providing for the organization of the eastern section of the immense Territory of Idaho into a new Territory, to be called Montana, the Senate have determined that negroes shall have the right to vote in the elections of said Territory, while the House sticks to its rejection of this provision. So there is a hitch between the two houses. We hope the popular branch will prevail, and let the bill go to the wall rather than consent to its success with this new firebrand of negro agitation at this crisis. It will be time enough to consider the question of negro political equality when we shall have rescued the government and the country from the dangers that now threaten them.

INCOMPETENCY OF CLERKS IN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.—A stir has been made in Congress in relation to the incompetency of clerks in the departments at Washington, and a bill has been introduced for the appointment of a board of examiners to inquire into the qualifications of the clerks in the various public offices. This is a measure urgently demanded. Under the present abolition administration every New England pedagogue and blue-stocking considers the public offices places designed for the especial benefit of his adolescent progeny—a sort of public nurseries, in which his children are entitled to the public pay that can

be stuffed into them. The author of this wise measure of reform deserves the thanks of the country for moving in at this time.

Opening of the Spring Campaigns All Around.

Now-a-days we hear of nothing but campaigns. Just at present everybody is beginning the spring campaign. Fashion's spring campaign opens magnificently. The streets are crowded with handsome dress goods and handsomely dressed women, and the high prices of every article of necessity, comfort and luxury only seem to excite the customers, as high-bred readers gamblers more eager and enthusiastic. In Wall street an immense mining campaign has begun, the object of which is to undermine outsiders and sink shafts into the pockets of innocent people. Then the spring campaign has opened in all other sorts of business, in which men make money for their wives and daughters to spend. But everything is going up, including house rent and stage fare, and it requires a great deal of business to keep the receipts equal to the expenditures.

The spring campaign has also opened at the Opera and the theatres. At the Opera the throngs are as great as ever and the opera even better performed. The theatres enjoy the same good fortune. Wallack's is jammed nightly. The Winter Garden would have been jammed also had not the two new plays recently produced there turned out the worst of fiascos. Mr. A. Oakley Hall, our brilliant and versatile District Attorney, has undertaken the Loyal Leaguers and the shoddy aristocracy for the Olympic. Edwin Booth draws multitudes to Niblo's Garden. Both of the Bowery theatres are doing well—so well that Manager Lillard, of the New Bowery, has lately developed aristocratic tastes and made the tour of Europe. Barnum is outdoing other people's postage currency into his safe with his accustomed success. The minstrels, and all the other minor establishments, and the circus and all the other establishments for minors, are also prospering. These are carnival times, and the people must be amused.

The spring campaign opens gloriously at the Park. As that great pleasure ground approaches completion it becomes more and more beautiful, and this summer the number of splendid equipages to be seen there will be largely increased. Already the carriage builders are overrun with orders. Soon the spring races will begin, and plenty of fine horses are preparing to show their paces upon the various tracks. The yachting season is also close at hand, and our amateur sailors snuff the salt breezes from afar. In the meantime all young New York and old New York and mid-aged New York attend the Sanitary Fair, in company with a strong embassy from New Jersey and a large representation of the rest of mankind, and admire the picture gallery, and wonder at Bierstadt's Indians, and inspect the Old Curiosity Shop, and vote upon the general's sword, and eat in the Knickerbocker Kitchen, and try to read the dispiriting *Spirit of the Fair*, and subscribe to the artists' albums in order to discourage raffling, and look at a lady's hand through a microscope, and stare at a brick through the bottom of another kind of glass, and buy liberally at all the booths, and enjoy themselves generally. This is the grand spring charitable campaign, and it is progressing triumphantly.

Last of all, there is the opening of the spring campaign against the rebels. As General Grant has charge of that, we have no doubts of the result. The political campaign appears to be almost neglected. All the politicians are waiting to see how General Grant comes out. By way of assisting him—as politicians usually assist generals—they are speculating about his plan and trying to reveal it to Jeff Davis. The *Tribune*, *Times* and *World* are especially distinguished in this work, and tell all they know about it. Fortunately, they know nothing; but it is very evident that if they were well informed the rebel leaders would require no scouts and spies; for these professedly loyal papers would reveal everything. If General Grant has a plan he has locked it up in his own breast. Certainly no correspondent of the tardy *Tribune*, the tattling *Times* or the wicked *World* has been admitted to the confidence of the Lieutenant General. Whether he will take the overland route, or the peninsula route, or the North Carolina route, or the balloon route, or some other route, or all the routes, is his own business and nobody's else. Let us be satisfied to know that he will take Richmond and rout the enemy. He violates the Ninth Commandment who pretends to know and divulge anything more of General Grant's plans for the spring campaign.

THE WILKES COURT MARTIAL.—The proceedings in this case are watched by the public with the liveliest interest. The more the facts are developed the more discredit they reflect on the Navy Department. Even should the acts of insubordination charged be established they will increase the sympathy felt for the gallant officer who is on his trial. They were committed in the endeavor to put a stop to the damage inflicted on the commerce of the country by the imbecility and slothfulness of Secretary Welles, and as such they deserve commendation instead of censure. The officer who dares not act on his own discretion when the interests of the nation demand it is unfit to occupy a position of any responsibility. Many a great reputation has been made, both in the navy and army, by a disregard of narrow-minded instructions. If Admiral Wilkes interfered with the plans of the Department by his appropriation of the Vanderbilt he had sufficient justification for it. Secretary Welles had no right to send an officer of his character and standing on so important a service without furnishing him with the means of discharging it effectively. Instead of doing so he gave him two or three old tubs of vessels, whose performances only brought down animadversion, and ridicule upon his efforts. No wonder that the Admiral should have chafed and grown restive under such an ordeal, and taken the first opportunity of setting himself right with the country. The worst finding of a court martial could have but little terror for such a man, compared with the anxieties of the equivocal position in which he was placed by the want of foresight and neglect of the Department.

There is no braver, more loyal or patriotic officer in the service than Admiral Wilkes. His conduct in the affair of the Trent should have won for him the highest honors. Had our boldly assumed the responsibility of his acts, and refused to deliver up the traitors Mason and Shilwell, it would have spared us much of the trouble we have since had with England.

An attitude of firmness would have deterred the English government from playing the false and treacherous part it has since acted toward us, and would have prevented the enormous losses which the privateers launched from its ports have since inflicted on our commerce. Whatever may be the result of the issue now pending between Admiral Wilkes and the Navy Department, these facts will not be forgotten by the country. It will not permit this gallant officer to be a second time sacrificed to the incapacity and ingratitude of his superiors.

PENDING QUESTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.—There are just now three questions pending before the American and English courts which involve some nice points of international law. The first of these arises out of the seizure of the Joseph L. Garey. It will be recollected that this vessel cleared from Matamoros with a quantity of cotton, and whilst at sea was seized by some rebels, who had managed to take passage on board. She was taken to Belize, where the pirates commenced selling the cotton; but the authorities, being informed of the facts, laid an embargo on the vessel, and sent five of the men concerned in the capture to England for trial for piracy. Several hearings of the case have been had at Liverpool; but no decision had been arrived at when the last steamer left. In the meanwhile the authorities at Belize concluded to release the vessel, and she is now on her way home to her owners at New York.

In the case of the Chesapeake—as clear an act of piracy as ever was committed—the vessel was given up by the order of the provincial government; but a local judge at St. John, notorious for his rebel affiliations, threw the shield of his protection over the offenders and set them at large. It is rumored, we know not how much foundation, that Earl Russell has written out to have them rearrested and put on their trial.

The third case is that of the capture of the Saxon off the coast of Africa by the Vanderbilt, and the shooting of her mate by an officer of the United States navy. There was strong presumption that the vessel was sailing as a sort of tender to the rebel privateer Alabama, part of the cargo of the Conrad, an American vessel, which had been seized by the latter, having been found on board of her. A decree has, however, just been entered by Judge Betts, liberating the vessel and cargo, and restoring them to their owners, on the ground that no evidence has been adduced justifying their condemnation. In the meanwhile Mr. Danenhower, the United States officer who shot the mate Gray, is on his trial before a court martial at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. Judge Betts' decision may affect his case unfavorably, although naval men will be apt to take a different view of the facts from that of the Judge.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT are exercising a strong pressure in the matter, by insisting upon that not only shall Mr. Danenhower be punished, but that compensation shall be made to the widow and family of Mr. Gray. The case is full of difficulty, and may lead to further trouble.

SEVENTH CHASE AT LAST PRESENT NEAR THE MARK.—In his late financial letter to the chairman of the Finance Committee of the Senate, Mr. Secretary Chase, after proposing a bill to restrain the paper money issues of our local banks, and another to put a check upon the gold speculators, confesses, at length, that something more is wanted. He says that "nothing short of taxation to one-half of the current expenditures, and a reduction of those expenditures to the lowest point compatible with efficiency, will insure financial success to the government, and without military success all measures will fail." True as Gospel, Mr. Secretary, and you ought to have thought of the plan before this; but we congratulate you on reaching at last this practical solution of our financial difficulties. Taxation, a reduction of paper money issues, retrenchment and economy are the genuine remedies; but "without military success all measures will fail." The destinies of the country, therefore, are in the hands of General Grant; and the paramount duty of President, Cabinet, Congress and people is in every possible way to strengthen him for the coming struggle.

PASS THE REVENUE BILL.—We like Senator Cowan's plan for relieving the country of its financial embarrassments. It is simply this: "We must pass the Revenue bill, and then, with our new general and rejuvenated army, conquer the enemy, put this rebellion down, and pay our debts." Good. Pass the Revenue bill; for this measure will strengthen the army, and enable the Treasury to provide for the payment of our debts.

ITALIAN OPERA.—The MATINEE yesterday. Appreciation rather than applause is the characteristic of a matinee at the Academy. The audience yesterday, who were charmed with perhaps one of the best renditions of Robert le Diable for the season—both in numbers and fashion, testified their satisfaction at the reputation which the leading artists have won in this great work. Medori was magnificent in the second and fifth acts. Brignoli, in the Siciliense, won the usual amount of applause, and in the trio of the second act, with Medori and Hermanns, sang delightfully. Miss Harris, in her difficult role, obtained some approval for her execution, which is a measure supplies the deficiency of power. She will be given for the last time to-morrow night, with Medori and Ketting, as usual.

THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF SHAKESPEARE.—The 23d of April, and of a large portion of Germany have been for a year past preparing to celebrate the three hundredth anniversary of the birthday of Shakespeare (the 23d of April). Upon an unprecedented scale of magnificence, the English journals are full of descriptions of programmes, and upon at Stratford-upon-Avon, which will require nearly a whole week of jubilant public demonstrations to complete.

It has been proposed by some of the most prominent of our American actors to raise a fund for the purpose of erecting a statue, or some other suitable monument, in honor of Shakespeare in our Park, which would at one and the same time indicate our appreciation as a community of the greatest dramatic poet the world has ever produced, and, as a work of art, embody that beautiful pronouncement.

We have authority for intimating the intention of the managers of Niblo's, the Winter Garden and the Academy of Music to give a benefit in aid of such a fund next Saturday afternoon and evening.

GRAND INVITATION BALL.—A grand invitation ball will be given by the Second Regiment New York State Militia (Eighty second New York Veterans Volunteers), at the Apollo Rooms, to-morrow (Monday) evening. A number of new dancing airs will be presented, with the best music of Wallace's band.

The funeral of A. A. Lovett. DEPARTURE, Monday, April 18, 1864. The final funeral services of the late Mr. A. A. Lovett, Superintendent of the People's Line of Telegraph, took place at his father's residence in this place to-day. The attendance was very large, including representatives of the telegraphic profession from all parts of the country. The services were conducted by the Rev. John W. Kimball, who paid a touching tribute to the virtues of the deceased.

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THE TROUBLE WE HAVE SINCE HAD WITH ENGLAND.

An attitude of firmness would have deterred the English government from playing the false and treacherous part it has since acted toward us, and would have prevented the enormous losses which the privateers launched from its ports have since inflicted on our commerce. Whatever may be the result of the issue now pending between Admiral Wilkes and the Navy Department, these facts will not be forgotten by the country. It will not permit this gallant officer to be a second time sacrificed to the incapacity and ingratitude of his superiors.

PENDING QUESTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.—There are just now three questions pending before the American and English courts which involve some nice points of international law. The first of these arises out of the seizure of the Joseph L. Garey. It will be recollected that this vessel cleared from Matamoros with a quantity of cotton, and whilst at sea was seized by some rebels, who had managed to take passage on board. She was taken to Belize, where the pirates commenced selling the cotton; but the authorities, being informed of the facts, laid an embargo on the vessel, and sent five of the men concerned in the capture to England for trial for piracy. Several hearings of the case have been had at Liverpool; but no decision had been arrived at when the last steamer left. In the meanwhile the authorities at Belize concluded to release the vessel, and she is now on her way home to her owners at New York.

In the case of the Chesapeake—as clear an act of piracy as ever was committed—the vessel was given up by the order of the provincial government; but a local judge at St. John, notorious for his rebel affiliations, threw the shield of his protection over the offenders and set them at large. It is rumored, we know not how much foundation, that Earl Russell has written out to have them rearrested and put on their trial.